

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA

S E C R E T STATE 176139

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: BDIS, EMIN, EIND, PE

SUBJ: CERRO DE PASCO

REF: STATE 175341

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH SAW FONOFF SECRETARY GENERAL GARCIA BEDOYA, WHO HERE IN CONNECTION WITH WORK OF SPECIAL COMMISSION ON RESTRUCTURING OAS, PRIVATELY ON SEPT 4 AND RAISED MATTER OF PRESIDENT VELASCO'S ALLEGED REMARKS RE CERRO DE PASCO. KUBISCH SAID THAT GREENE AND BELCHER HAD RECEIVED IMPRESSION DURING AUGUST 16 LUNCHEON MEETING WITH FONMIN DE LA FLOR, AMBASSADOR MARCHAND AND GARCIA BEDOYA THAT GOP WOULD NOT LET CERRO DEVELOP INTO "LIVE ISSUE" BETWEEN US AND PERU FOR PRESENT WHILE GREENE NEGOTIATIONS IN CURRENT STAGE. WHEN GARCIA BEDOYA CONFIRMED THIS WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING ALSO, KUBISCH ASKED HOW HE ACCOUNTED FOR STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO PRESIDENT VELASCO. KUBISCH POINTED OUT THAT, GIVEN FRAGILITY OF PRESENT SITUATION, SUCH STATEMENTS BOUND TO AGGRAVATE PROBLEM AND CREATE NEGATIVE REACTION IN US.

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2. GARCIA BEDOYA SAID VELASCO HAD MADE STATEMENTS

DURING FREE GIVE AND TAKE WITH REPORTERS, WHO PRESSED HIM HARD ON CERRO. ADDED THAT PRESIDENT HAD BEEN THINKING OF DOMESTIC RATHER THAN FOREIGN AUDIENCE AND PERHAPS HAD SPOKEN WITH MORE "CALOR" THAN STATESMANSHIP.

3. GARCIA BEDOYA SAID THAT OFFICIAL TEXT, NOT PRESS REPORTS, OF VELASCO STATEMENT REFLECTED TRUE PERUVIAN POSITION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT GOP POSITION HAS NOT CHANGED, THAT PERU IS PURSUING GREENE NEGOTIATIONS IN GOOD FAITH AND WANTS VERY MUCH TO REACH SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT. RUSH

SECRET

NNN

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